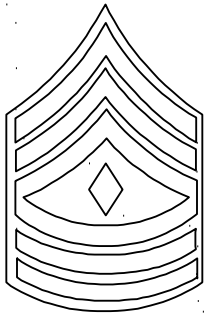
FIRST SERGEANTS COURSE

ETHICS BRIEF



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1. Things have changed.
2. Used to be, that rank held privilege.
3. No longer true.
4. Now, rank only carries increased responsibility.

WHY?

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5. Don't really know for sure -- probably too many public figures in too many scandals.

6. One thing is certain, trust has been replaced by regulations.

7. Second thing that's certain, violate the law and you place yourself in harm's way -- you can be jailed for violating ethics regulations.

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This is the Law:

DOD DIRECTIVE 5500-7R (30 Aug 93)

"***STANDARDS OF CONDUCT***"

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DOD Directive 5500.7-R includes the *Standards Of Ethical Conduct For The Executive Branch,*" at 5 CFR 2635 et. seq.

This forms the basis of the Directive, with DOD additions completing the Directive.

I recommend every unit get a copy of this Directive

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The Directive has 12 chapters and speaks to approximately 65 separate ethical issues.

In the time provided today, I am only going to speak about three issues:
(1) gifts from outside sources,
(2) gifts between employees, and
(3) misuse of position.

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GIFTS FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES
(5 CFR 2635.201)

[A]n employee shall not, directly or indirectly, solicit or accept a gift from a prohibited source, or given because of the employee's official position.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

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GIFTS BETWEEN EMPLOYEES (5 CFR 2635.301)

[A]n employee may not, directly or indirectly, give a gift to or make a donation toward a gift for an official superior; or solicit a contribution from another employee for a gift to either his own or the other employee's official superior.

[A]n employee may not, directly or indirectly, accept a gift from an employee receiving less pay than himself unless the two employees are not in a subordinate-official superior relationship, and there is a personal relationship between the two employees that would justify the gift.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

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MISUSE OF POSITION (5 CFR 2635.701)

An employee shall not use his public office for his own private gain, for the endorsement of any product, service, or enterprise, or for the private gain of friends, relatives, or persons with whom the employee is affiliated in a nongovernmental capacity, including nonprofit organizations of which the employee is an officer or member, and persons with whom the employee has or seeks employment or business relations.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

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REMEMBER:
Times have changed. Today, rank has less privilege than it did in the past, and more responsibility than it ever did.

If you try to slip around the law, you may find a noose slipped around your neck.